

SOIL

Erosion			
Resource Concern	Definition	Quality Criteria	Assessment Tool
a. Sheet and rill	Soil erosion caused by overland water flow	The soil loss is reduced to within 25 percent or one tone of tolerance "T" (<i>whichever is greater</i>) for the soil map unit, listed in Section II, FOTG.	Section III, FOTG
b. Ephemeral gully	Concentrated flow channels in small water courses that begin where overland flow concentrates.	Treated and affected areas are stabilized.	
c. Classic gully	Channels too deep to be crossed with normal equipment. They may grow or enlarge by head cutting and lateral widening.	Head cutting is stopped, channel bottom and side slopes are stabilized so as not to jeopardize the intended land use or cause off-site damage.	
d. Streambank	Sloughing of banks caused by heavy equipment use, livestock trampling, obstructions, overbank flows, streamflows, unstable soils and channel bottom, or all or any combination of these conditions.	The streambank is stabilized between two stable points at the design event, as defined in the applicable practice standards, so as not to jeopardize the intended land use or cause off-site damage.	
Condition			
a. Poor soil tilth	A soil condition that impairs the growth and vigor of the plant species of concern.	A condition of the soil with a suitable combination of air, mineral, organic matter, and water managed to avoid excess compression of silt particles, resulting in a favorable environment for chemical reactions and microbial activity.	

SOIL - Condition (cont'd)

Resource Concern	Definition	Quality Criteria	Assessment Tool
b. Subsurface compaction	Compaction zones beneath the surface caused by traffic or other management practices.	Planned measure will eliminate or reduce management induced compacted zones that limit plant root growth and/or water movement.	
c. Excess animal waste, fertilizers, and other organics	Excess animal waste, fertilizers, and other organics that restrict the desired use of the land.	Animal waste, fertilizers, and other organics are present at levels which do not restrict the use of the land or the soil does not transmit contaminants that adversely affect air, animals, plants, and water.	
d. Excess pesticides	Excess pesticides occur when the application methods or quantities result in restricting the desired use of the soil.	Pesticides are present at levels which do not restrict the planned use of the land or the soil does not transmit contaminants that adversely affect air, animals, plants, and water.	
e. Excess contaminants (<i>heavy metals</i>)	Include desirable and undesirable chemical elements and their compounds, either inorganic or organic, that hinder or prevent plant growth or other pollution problems.	Contaminants are present at levels which do not restrict the use of the land or the soil does not transmit contaminants that adversely affect air, animals, plants, and water.	
Deposition			
a. Damage	Occurs when deposition adversely affects properties related to plant growth.	Deposition does not: alter the plant-soil relationship, cause physical damage to vegetation, damage property, or limit the intended land use.	
b. Safety	Deposition on culverts, roads, or other locations causing flooding, loss of access, or unsafe conditions.	Deposition is controlled to eliminate the safety hazard.	